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#### THE EVENING BULLETIN.

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The Evening Bulletin, DANIEL LOGAN, Editor.

THURSDAY, DEC. 31, 1896.

RETROSPECTIVE.

AT HOME. In these closing hours of A. D. 1896, it gives the chronicler joy to write, in very truth, that for the Hawaiian Islands the year has been one of remarkable presperity and absence of adversity. Of sugar, the chief product and mainstay of the country, there has been the largest yield on record. This result is partly due to increased enterprise, but in no small degree also to favoring natural elements. Improved science of cultivation and manufacture, which is part of the enterprise, shares in the human credit. Throughout the height of the harvesting season the price of our chief staple has been fair although not comparable with that of some former golden years. There has been an increase of shipments of sugar to New York round Cape Horn, a feature of our export trade which was new only the previous year. This detracts so much from the volume of trade with the Pacific Coast, which has for many years been a telling exhibition, in one conspicuous solidarity, of the value of the reciprocal commercial relations between the United States and Hawaii. It cannot be helped and there are compensations for the disarrangement in an increase of steamship traffic between the islands and the Pacific Coast, which has been great the past year and productive of fresh development of trade that is bound more and more to exemplify the buying power of this country. Speaking of our main staple, the last month of the year witnesses the floating of a vast new sugar plantation, on this island of Oahu, with a capital of nearly two million dollars. Also, the perfecting of arrangements for issuing large addition of new stock for one of the youngest, while already the largest of the plantations on the same island, whose shares are at a premium of about a hundred per cent.

is thus more than holding its own, the new industry of coffee raising is rapidly assuming gigantic proportions. Besides occupying extensive areas of virgin soil on Hawaii, the largest island, large plantations have been started and others projected on Oahu. Pineapple raising has got beyond the experimental stage, the fruit being exported to the Pacific Coast by every steamer. Encouraging results have also been obtained from a factory for putting up the fruit in a preserved state for the foreign market. These new industries are an important factor in the carrying out of the national policy of having the public domain settled by an intelligent class of independent producers of wealth. The process of colonizing the land to this end has been steadily progressing, and, with the welfare of the settlers, it is being promoted by opening up hitherto almost inacessible tracts with roads. The island of Hawaii, extremely rugged in its topography, is in the way of being provided with a good system of roads, both along previously untrodden routes and replacing dangerous trails.

While the production of sugar

growth of domiciliary Honolulu of the new order in government. of late years there has been evi- Neither was there any serious dent an improving taste in cottage resentment provoked on the side architecture, which, conjointly of the people who have not become coration, keeps the newer built revolution of four years ago. The portions of the city plot close up Legislature did not at its regular that has made the older avenues of most legislative bodies the of Honolulu such a delight to world over, by the effecting of strangers. It is impracticable useful results in quantity anyhere to specify the chief acquisi where approaching due proportions of the year in business and tion to the time spent. Yet it living structures. Mention must does not appear that its legislabe made, however, of the restorn tion has been, in any notable intion of the opera house, after de stance, of a mischievous nature. struction by fire, which has been A scheme for refunding the nacompleted through the enterprise tional debt, to save on the interest of Mr. Irwin of Honolulu and account, has thus for proved Messrs. John D. Spreckels and A. fruitless of results, as also has the B. Spreckels of San Francisco. In granting of extremely liberal conboth equipment and elegance it cessions for a telegraph cable beexcels the quite modern edifice tween America and this country. that was ruined. Two neat church- Personal events in politics have es have been erected—one for the been few but rather interesting. fateful day. William McKinley's Methodist Episcopal body and the The last remaining prisoners of other for the Portuguese Protest- the insurrection of 1895 were reants. Tenders are being conside leased on parole New Year's day, ared by the Government, while and even the embargo of parole this paper is being printed, for was raised from the ex-Queen rethe construction of a central fire cently. That lady has taken station to cost about \$30,000. Pro- notable benefit of her liberty this minent among the instances of pro- month by going to the United sperity are additions to the stemu States, with a probability of ex- lism. It was a strong fleets of the two local corporations tending her journey to England. that do nearly all the coasting traf- The Attorney General visited fic of the islands. One large new New Zealand to investigate the steamer has just gone into service, and a smaller one is supposed to laws, and later Japan and China be on its way from San Francisco, to make arrangements for profor the Inter-Island Steam Navi- teeting Hawaii against the ingation Company, both vessels hav- vasion of pestilence from those ing been built on the Pacific countries. The Minister of Foreign Coast. The Wilder Steamship Company is also understood to have a new steamer not far away.

deepening of the entrance channel to thirty feet, has been steadily progressing with dredging in the inner harbor and the building of wharves. A dock for the accommodation of the largest steamships in the Pacific, which they can enter from the mouth of the harbor without turning as at present, is being excavated at this moment. Operations of the dredge are carried on by night as well as day. The opening of new streets and the widening of old ones, provided for by the Legislature this year, constitute an important part of public improvements in hand, while an eminent New York engineer-Mr. Hering-is here to advise the Government especially upon the creation of a sewerage system and, incidentally, upon the bettering of the water supply of Honolulu. These latter projects were forced upon the active attention of the Government by the visitation of cholera in 1895. Here it is fitting to remark upon the ex-

noted because their creation marks munity from pestilence, or any desirable settlers of European ing in upon the towns, including to a large extent the closing year's thing akin thereto, almost ever origin. Prosperity and progress have Month after month the mortancy institutions have flourished in the report that General Maceo, the been stamped upon this metropo- report of the Board of Health land. Kindergarten work has insurgent leader, had been treachlis of the Islands this year in showed a diminution from pare become firmly established with erously beguiled into ambush, many new baildings. Several vious years in the death rate, were promise of great results upon the under cover of a parley, and foulhandsome business blocks have there has been absence of any mental and moral growth of the ly murdered by the Spaniards has been erected besides a number of thing like an epidemic of even children of the country. The not been sufficiently confirmed for notable ones just being occupied comparatively mild discuss. Bishop Museum, founded as a acceptance. If it prove true, this day twelve months ago. In Such conditions are doubless at memorial to the late Mrs. Bishop doubless another leader will dwellings the increase has been tributable in part to the drastic by her husband, is about to have arise, and the infamy of Macco's really magical and, what is most and thorough cleansing the intel a second large addition, although undoing will but intensify the gratifying, a large proportion of ligent citizens gave the city when aiready the leading repository of valor and the vengeance of the them are the domiciles of their choices was present, followed by Polynesian curiosities and relies Cubans. Spain in the meantime owners. What were pasture and increased activity and vigilance of the world. An aquarium for has had another rich colony rise waste lands less than two years on the part of the Board of Health the exhibition of the marine life in arms against her rule. The

to the elegant urban standard session do violence to the record working of that country's land Affairs a few days ago returned from a tour to Washington, with side trips to Boston and other Honolulu harbor improvement, cities of the United States. Gobegun several years ago with the ing by the Canadian route he also called on the new Government of the Dominion. Both of these Ministers were well received wherever they went, and Hawaii will be better known abroad as one result of their travels. There has been a revival here of agitation for political union with the United States. It is being conducted by moderate but earnest and systematic methods which, at the very least, are certain to secure a better understanding of the question from both the American and the Hawaiian points of view.

> A census taken this year shows that the population of the Islands has increased by more than 20 per cent to 110,000 in round numbers. Up to this writing, however, the enumeration by races has not been given out, but it is supposed that the greatest ratio of increase has been in Asiatics. imported for labor on the planta-

them, the independent homes of A regular session of the Legisla of the greatest institutions of the forcements of Spanish troops have people of moderate incomes from ture yielded no grave factional kind in existence. Charitable en- been sent to quell the insurrection. their daily avocations. With the differences amidst the supporters terprise in Honolulu is divided The issues at last accounts were between organizations of different extremely doubtful, and the tales nationalities, and often these find of Spanish cruelty from the scene themselves straitened in resources would befit the dark ages better to meet demands for relief. Mrs. W. than the nineteenth century. with a general ambition to utilize reconciled to the fundamental G. Irwin has this past Christmas tropical advantages for home de- change of polity wrought by the given a nob'e example to wealthy tan of Turkey accounts have come citizens, by apportioning five of atrocity and massacre visited thousand dollars among the dif- upon the Armenians, not only in ferent charitable societies, besides their own provinces but in Conendowing a bed in the Queen's stantinople, which have made the Hospital with six thousand dol- civilized world stand aghast

and exhibits of Hawaiian commer- everlasting Eastern Question has eial, political and social circum- been invoked, but no single nation stances in the year 1896, it may or combination of nations has be taken that no more liberal wish been willing to undertake the disfor the new year need be uttered ciplining of the Turk. Mutual than that it may deal as kindly distrust of the Powers would with Hasaii as has done its pre- make the attempt liable to bring decessor.

FOREIGN. In the United States the presidential election was the monopolelection by a large majority was not so much the triumph of the Republican party as it was a victory of American devotion to law and order. The defeat of William J. Bryan was more than a quietus for the time being to the doctrine to that brilliant politician's effort to produce a division of the nation on class lines. Immediately after the election there was a revival of industry and trade. This fact is not to be attributed to any wellfounded anticipation of a speedy reversion to extreme protection ideas, but rather to the natural recovery of the country from the suspense of the currency agitation and the usual paralysis to business produced by a national election. A striking corollary of the financial uncertainty caused by the campaign was the joint official and private effort to maintain the credit of the nation. This succeeded so well, many millions of gold being imported, that the treasury reserve of gold has been maintained well above the safety limit of \$100,000,000.

In our review of one year ago. it was stated that a decisive crisis was expected, forthwith, in the struggle of Cuba for independence. The expectation was not realized but is again a fact after the lapse of a year, with enhanced advantage apparently for the At latest advices Cubans. there was a strong probability that the Congress of the United States would recognize the insurgents as belligerents, which would give them a better standing for taking advantage of what aptions. At the same time there is pears to be their improved posireason to believe that there has tion. They are said now to domi-These signs of progress are here captional immunity of this com been a considerable accretion of ante the raval districts, while clos-

the capital, which are held for the since the sad time just mentioned. Benevolent and philanthropic most part by the Spaniards. A ago are now covered with rows of in consequence of that years and the familie ocean is now de- Philippine Islands, one of the attractive cottages, with ample Politically the atmosphere of the ham opposed by the Bishop largest groups in the Pacific, are lawn and garden spaces about Islands has been serence to took. Museum Trust, and is to be one seething in revolt, and heavy rein-

From the dominions of the Sul-From many lands the interference From the foregoing instances of the Powers interested in the on the horrors of a general European war. Rumors with some appearance of credibility, however, are mingled with the latest intelligence, to the effect that an understanding has been reached, for accomplishing the desired object, between Russin, Great Britain and France.

> A tour of visitation made by the young Czar of Russia to neighboring countries, including a call on Queen Victoria in Scotland, has formed an interesting topic of international gossip. If be effected anything important bearing upon the great question of the peace of Europe, or calculated to improve his own Empire's position for either peace or war, it has not yet been certainly divulged. His tour was probably taken to help him to feeling his way toward a definite policy, as it has been reported that a radical change in Russia's attitude toward various countries was in contemplation.

Close upon the Czar's tour came a sensation produced by Prince Bismarck's revelations of a secret treaty of neutrality between Russia and Germany in view of possible trouble between Russia and Austria. Such a treaty coexistent with the triple alliance of Germany, Austria and Italy for the preservation of peace, has been denounced on the continent and in England, and the vexation of German statesmen at the revelations is exhibited in abuse of Prince Bismarck by the official

It may be said that the year has brought the vast territory of the Soudon in Africa within the British Empire. Great Britain was left severely alone in sending an expedition of Egyptian soldiery to subdue the marauding Mehdists. She succeeded and then asked to have the expenses of the campaign paid out of the general fund established by herself and

Continued on 3th Page.